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### NEWS RELEASE

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## SENATE PRESIDENT REPEATS CALL FOR MAJOR TRANSPORTATION FUNDING PACKAGE IN 2017

(SALEM – Senate President Peter Courtney issued the following statement Thursday in reaction to the release of the 2015 Bridge Condition Report by the Oregon Department of Transportation.

“Oregon’s bridges are hurting. Some need repairs. Others need to be replaced. We don’t have the funding to keep up. If the Legislature doesn’t act, our bridges and our economy will collapse. A major transportation plan must be our top priority in the 2017 session. Our safety depends on it. Our economy depends on it. Our future depends on it.”

Thursday’s statement is the third time in the last eight days Courtney has addressed the need for a major investment in the state’s transportation infrastructure.

On Sept. 9, the eve of the opening of the six-month filing period for the 2016 election cycle, Courtney offered a message to returning lawmakers and anyone seeking legislative or statewide office in the 2016 elections. He repeated that message speaking at the ribbon cutting ceremony for the \$70 million Woodburn Interchange Project Monday.

“If you want to be in the Legislature; if you want to be governor; if you want to be secretary of state or treasurer; you need to be committed to passing a major transportation plan.” Courtney said. “Everyone needs to know what they are signing up for. Transportation funding will be the defining issue of the 2017 session.”

*Editors: A direct link to the report can be found [here](#). The executive summary can be found [here](#).*